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INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY China

DATE: 25X1A

SUBJECT Economic Information: Conditions in Communist-
controlled Manchuria

DIST. 29 April 1947

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SUPPLEMENT

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1. Most of the machinery in the coal mines at Suileng (127-17, 47-09) and Hungkang (130-17, 47-05), possibly misread "Hungkang" has been removed by the Soviets; the machinery remaining in each is now in operation, although most of the work is still done manually. The output of the Suileng mine is 400 tons daily and that of the Hungkang mine, 650 tons daily. As the output is just sufficient to meet the demands of the railroads, coal is not sold to the public. [redacted] note: In September an article in the Ta Kung Pao stated that the Fouhsin mine was producing 600 tons daily. Fouhsin is one of the largest mines in Manchuria, and it is doubtful that lesser mines such as the Suileng and Hungkang mines could produce 400 and 650 tons daily with only manual labor.)

2. Cotton thread and cotton material purchased in Nationalist areas can be sold for double the initial price in Communist areas.

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3. The Chinese Communists have organized Production Bureaus in Harbin, Chiamussu (130-20, 46-50), and Mutanchiang (129-37, 44-35). The bureaus control all industrial and commercial concerns, the local markets, and all native goods (cereals and products of home industries) in the countryside. The bureaus have ordered the private concerns to organize an "I Kung Hui" (義公會) which will train laborers. Shops will be run by these trained workers. Of the profits, 40% will go to the manager and 60% to the workers. If the stores are unable to maintain themselves, the Production Bureau will contribute funds to help them continue in business. This actually makes the concerns half privately-owned and half government-owned. Many merchants are dissatisfied with this method of economic control.

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4. Prices of cereals in Harbin have decreased during the month of January. One bag of flour (44 catties) costs 7300 NEC; one catty of rice costs 54 NEC; and one catty of sorghum, 16. [redacted] note: Exchange rate: approximately 1 NEC to 11 CMC.) A limited amount of cereals has been stored inside the city and the Chinese Communists are commandeering cereals from the surrounding districts.

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